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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Guatemala

SUBJECT Cancellation of Guatemalan Labor Rally

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1. The cancellation by pro-government forces of the labor rally scheduled for the evening of 24 July 1950 averted expected bloodshed, and the evening passed without serious incident. Although he did not name them, [] an undetermined number of opposition leaders had been arrested. (b)(1) c
(b)(3)
2. All during the day of 24 July, small groups of leaders were concentrated on a stand-by basis at the headquarters of the Sindicato de Accion y Mejoramiento Ferrocarrilero (SAMF), the Confederacion de Trabajadores de Guatemala (CTG), the Federacion Sindical de Guatemala (FSG), and the Partido Accion Revolucionaria (PAR), awaiting orders from their chiefs. Labor leaders Manuel Pinto Usaga and Victor Manuel Gutierrez have maintained close contact with the Guatemalan government throughout the crisis. As yet, [] these civilian labor groups are not believed to be heavily armed, but apparently a place has been designated for them to receive government arms should the need arise. (b)(1) c
(b)(3)
3. [] By cancelling the labor rally and by accepting the resignation of the Minister of the Interior on 24 July, the Government is apparently trying to calm the situation without resorting to violence. The Communist leaders have obeyed government instructions, and the only violence attributable to them, so far, was the riot of 20 July when they and labor union elements clashed in the streets with the anti-government oppositionists. All the demonstrations, with that one exception, have been brought about by the Opposition elements. (b)(1) c
(b)(3)

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